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SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

# History of Taunton,

MASSACHUSETTS.

BY

SAMUEL HOPKINS EMERY.

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D. MASON & CO.,  
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK,

1894.



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It is gratifying to an author to receive words of approval, commendatory of his work, from persons of culture and learning, who have critically examined it, and whose judgment is not given unadvisedly.

My long-time friend, Prof. Wm. S. Tyler, of Amherst College, writes:

I have looked it through and read enough of it to see that an immense amount of time and labor has been given to the book, and that the work is well done.

Judge William E. Fuller, of Taunton writes:

I have received your "History of Taunton" and spent several hours in a topical reading of it. It was a great labor for you to undertake at this time of your life and I most heartily congratulate you on its successful completion.

The Hon. John S. Brayton, of Fall River, writes:

I received last week a copy of your "History of Taunton." I have examined the book and am more than pleased with the manner in which you have performed the task of writing the history of that ancient municipality. The work shows great care and patient research, and is a grand monument to him, who, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, is able to publish a volume of inestimable value, not only to the present generation, but to those who may follow for generations to come.

General Darius N. Couch, of Norwalk, Conn., writes:

I want to tell you that, although we have had the "History" only a few days, we have gotten out of it a great deal of enjoyment. It is quite wonderful to me that in the comparatively brief time at your disposal you were able to bring out so complete a "History of Taunton." It is a noble monument to your memory. My wife joins me in warm congratulations.

The well-known secretary of the Rhode Island Historical Society, Hon. Amos Perry, in a letter to Captain Hall, says:

My best compliments to Dr. Emery and my congratulations on the success of his admirable work.

The Hon. Josiah H. Drummond, of Portland, Me., in the kindness of his heart, in a letter to Captain Hall, expresses himself on this wise:

He has done a magnificent work and we owe him the thanks of a lifetime for undertaking it.

Ex-Governor Joseph H. Williams, of Augusta, Me., in his usual warm-hearted way, thus writes to Captain Hall:

Will you say to my good friend, President Emery, that I hold his monumental history of your city among my most valued possessions. A New York friend, visiting me, of antiquarian tastes, went into and through it with unbroken interest and edification.

The Hon. John Ordronaux, the first corresponding secretary of the Old Colony Historical Society, now the eminent jurist of New York city, writes:

I have examined this last effort of your pen and regard it as *magnum opus*. The scope of the work is immense and its details exhaustive in their accumulation of historical facts. Patient, untiring labor, indefatigable industry, and careful collation of data in their proper relations to the continuity of the narrative and the chronology of events, give striking proofs of the thoroughness of preparation with which every topic was approached and discussed. More than this I must not say, lest you should think that in the ardor of my esteem for the author I had strained the boundaries of praise beyond the limits of conviction. You deserve well of your fellow-citizens for having thus commemorated the epic of their own and their forefathers actions. You have in your own life and through your own deeds verified the truth of Sallust's remark that *Pulchrum est bene facere reipublicae etiam bene dicere hand absurdum est*. Your history, like his, will be handed down to future generations as a literary milestone in the progress of our continuing national development and accumulating written records.

These expressions of approval and interest from highly valued friends are certainly appreciated. They come from those who are well aware of the necessary limitations and imperfections of such a work and the errors which will creep into it. In a letter from my esteemed antiquarian friend, Rev. Mr. Chaffin, of North Easton, well versed in historical study, I am reminded for my encouragement, that no work of history can claim perfect accuracy, at the same time adding, much to my relief:

Your book is admirable, got up in fine style, and will most honorably connect your name with Taunton for generations to come.

For the benefit of subscribers, discovered errors with some additional matter are here appended, supplementary to what may be found on page 737 and onwards, First Part, and page 82 and onwards, Second Part.

Page 30. Mr. Wilcox has kindly loaned me the exact copy of the will of Henry Andrews found at Plymouth. It appears that only "thirty



pounds " of the legacy to the daughters were left in the hands of Parker. It is as follows:

I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Hedges, the wife of William Hedges [same as Hodges now] a certain dwelling house with a garden adjoining to it and a parcel of land belonging to it situated and being in Taunton afores<sup>d</sup> near unto my dwelling house, to her and to her assigns forever, provided that my wife shall enjoy it during her life and if my s<sup>d</sup> daughter shall decease before my wife, the s<sup>d</sup> premises shall belong after my wife's decease unto John Hedges, the sonne of my s<sup>d</sup> daughter and to his heirs forever, or in case of his decease without issue, it shall remayne to her next child or children and to the heirs of such forever. Also, to s<sup>d</sup> dau. ten pounds.

I give to my g<sup>d</sup> child John Hedges aboves<sup>d</sup> a silver pint cupp with a silver cover to it and my s<sup>d</sup> dau. shall have the use of it till John come to mature age or man's estate but with this proviso, that if within a y<sup>r</sup> or two the Lord shall give my daughter another child, it shall be in her power to dispose of s<sup>d</sup> cupp either to this latter or former child and unto that child to whom the s<sup>d</sup> cup is not thus disposed I do give and bequeath a good cow which is already delivered into the hands of my s<sup>d</sup> daughter for that end and purpose.

I give & bequeathe unto my daughter Sarah and to my daughter Abigail one hundred and thirty lbs to be equally divided between them, of which sum thirty lbs are in the hands of John Parker, of Boston, shoemaker, which sum my will is shall remayne in his hands on sufficient security until it shall be wanted and my daughters to be maintained out of the portion I give to my wife and if either or both of s<sup>d</sup> daughters die then to be divided unto my s<sup>d</sup> surviving and if none to the posterity of my son Henry Andrews.

Whereas I am possessed of a certain piece of land called the neck of land my wife to have this as long as she keeps my name and then to daughters Sarah and Abigail. Whereas before the making of this I have granted and delivered unto my s<sup>d</sup> son Henry a considerable quantity of land, that is to say a great lott at the two mile river and the land over the great river opposite to my dwelling house and som land lying next to land of James Bates called the middle swamp and the new meadow called Squabbinnanset meddow and my dwelling house, and all the residue of my lands shall belong to my wife for the term of her life unless she married then to be s<sup>d</sup> son's.

I give unto my son the longest of my fowling pieces and my best suit of apparal and my best coat. To Mr. Streete, teacher of church, 5 lbs. To Elizabeth Harvey, widdow, one of poor of church, one cow, which is now in the keeping of Geo. Macey—to daughters Sarah and Abigail, feather bed and bolster and dozen of silver spoons to belong equally unto them.

Wife Mary executrix—James Wyatt and Walter Dean overseers. Wm. Parker, James Wyatt, John Jollop, witnesses.

The "two mile river" referred to in this will, a well known stream in what is now Raynham, was so called, as some say, from its length, but others from its distance from what was considered the center of the town. So also the "three mile river," in an opposite direction from the

center, is accounted for in the same way. In Norton they call the same stream "seven miles," so it is said, and they have in Attleboro' a "ten mile river," if I am rightly informed.

Page 31. Mr. Wilcox, who has copied the will of Widow Andrews, says, she calls herself instead of the son, "forty-three years old."

Mr. Franklin Pratt, who has made a special study of Richard and James Burt, noticed on pp. 34, 35, is of the opinion they came by the way of Barbadoes, and that Richard was less than sixty years old in 1643. He had a son John, who is not mentioned in his will. He adds:

James Burt's home lands were on West Water street, between the plant of the Taunton Iron Works Company and the estate of John R. Williams. "*Between*" in the description should be *below*. "Mr. Browne's brook" is now called the Cobb brook. "Thomas Lincoln's cartway" is now Highland street. It extended from the Taunton Iron Works wharf westerly to Somerset avenue at the Presbrey Stove Lining Works, and then followed Highland street to the Fair grounds, then across the Fair grounds to Thomas Lincoln's house, not far from the Three Mile River, on Col. Frederick Mason's Riverside farm. "Falls Plain" should be Nutt Plaine, according to Mr. Danforth's certified copy.

Page 36. My friend Wilcox is very sure David Corwithy went from Taunton to Marblehead and served as constable there, putting in an appearance not unfrequently at Salem.

The Hon. J. H. Drummond, of Portland, Me., has favored me with the name of the wife of Samuel, the oldest son of John Deane, the first settler, to be entered on page 37, Sarah, daughter of Increase and Sarah (Penniman) Robinson, married December 15, 1692.

John 2d, the third son, married Hannah, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Williams) Bird, and granddaughter of Richard Williams, September 21, 1699. She was born December 16, 1677.

The Joseph Wilbore, whom Mehitable married, was son of Shadrach and Mary Wilbore.

Page 38. Israel married, March 20, 1704-5, Katharine, sister of the wife of John, also a granddaughter of Richard Williams.

Thomas 2d, son of Thomas, married, January 7, 1696, Mary, daughter of John and Abigail (Leonard) Kingsley, of Milton, as the name is spelt in Milton records.

Deborah died in 1702 or 1703, leaving one child, John Tisdale.

Mercy married Daniel Williams, February 1, 1710-11, not 1719.

Page 39. Jonathan, born 1687; Mehitable, born 1689; Abiah, born 1691; Deborah, born 1693.

Page 40. Hannah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Williams) Deane, married Joseph, son of Joseph and Mary (Andrews) Richmond.

Page 46. The will of Thomas Gilbert proves that the wife of Samuel Williams was Mary Gilbert, while Jane was the wife of Samuel Gulliver.

Page 52. The will of Joseph Wilbore shows that Sarah, the wife of Nathaniel Hoar, was the daughter of Shadrach Wilbore.

Page 63. (5) Deborah, daughter of George Macey married Dan Throop, of Taunton. This appears from their deed of sale of certain property to Rev. Samuel Danforth, lands lying beyond the mill privilege, bought by Mr. Danforth of her sister Elizabeth, and including the present fine State Hospital grounds.

Page 73, line 9. Edward Richmond, according to Mr. Drummond, had a wife before he married Amy Bull. His first wife was the mother of all his children except Henry and Amy, and Henry died without issue.

Page 74. (3) Thomas Richmond died in Middleboro', December 14, 1705.

(6). Edward had three wives, (1) Mercy ———, (2) Rebecca Thurston, (3) Mary ———. His first wife had seven children, his second four, third none.

(7). Elizabeth, widow of John Hall, was daughter of Philip and Judith (Whitman) King.

(9). John Richmond married, November 28, 1709, Hannah, daughter of Stephen and Hannah Otis, *not* Joanna Gooding, who was the wife of John Godfrey, the father of Brig. George Godfrey. The mother of John Godfrey was Mary, the sister of this John Richmond. See (1), first line of page 74.

(10). Ebenezer Richmond married Anna, daughter of Robert Sproat, of Scituate. Their son, Ebenezer, born in 1701, married Widow Mary Walker.

Page 86. General Peirce, in an interesting paper read before the Old Colony Historical Society, gives the names of nine children of Edward Bobit, making Damaris, the fourth, born September 15, 1663. Also, *Elkanah* instead of *Zepana*, and *Dorcas* instead of *Demas*, born *June* 20 instead of *January*. Esther married Edward Paul, August 23, 1693, living till November 15, 1751.

The General also dwells on the life of another early settler, a victim of the Indian war, John Tisdale, calling him "one of the 26 original

purchasers of old or West Freetown, bought of the Indians April 2, 1659." He is noticed on page 91 of our history.

Page 87. Robert Crosman died in 1692, and his widow, Martha, 1695. This Martha, according to Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth, Part 2, pp. 28, and 100, was widow of Samuel Eaton, and daughter of Francis Billington. The name as recorded in vol. 1, p. 72, of Bristol county probate office, in a mem. of agreement between Martha and Robert Crosman, looks like Easton, but probably is Eatton.

Page 89. Almon Danforth Hodges, jr., of Boston, an enthusiastic genealogist, thanking me for what has been done, speaking for himself and other subscribers, says, "How I wish we had an Index!" Our explanation of this is found on page 85 of Part II. Mr. Hodges is certain the "William Hodges of Taunton was not the Captain Hodges of the Rebecka in Winthrop's Journal," as Rufus Hodges in his first edition of the Hodges Family supposed.

Page 95. Samuel S. Drake should be Samuel G.

Page 179. Mr. Drummond is sure the Susannah *Mason* mentioned in the Street will should be Susannah *Macey*, wife of Lt. George Macey.

Page 185. My friend Elisha C. Leonard,<sup>1</sup> of New Bedford, gives the second wife of Rev. George Shove as *Hannah*, widow of Thomas Walley, and daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah (Mayo, daughter of Rev. John) Bacon. Her daughter, Hannah, married second, Capt. James Leonard<sup>3</sup> in 1698. Rev. George had a daughter, Yet-Mercy, baptized November 7, 1682, married, January 24, 1709, Josiah Howland, of Bristol, R. I., blacksmith, like his father. They also kept a tavern, and the courts met at their house.

Page 187. Mr. James M. Cushman thinks Rev. Mr. Danforth came earlier to Taunton than his recorded call to the ministry, and that he officiated as schoolmaster, for which office he was certainly well fitted.

Page 198, fourteenth line from bottom. *Jno*<sup>n</sup> Nathaniel Burt should be *Ins*<sup>n</sup> Nathaniel.

Page 205, twelfth line from bottom. 1765 should be 1675.

Page 211. Jacob K. Leonard should be Jacob A.

Page 238. Among the deacons of the first church in the earlier part of the last century should be named, probably, John Staples and his son Seth. John, an original member of the Raynham church in 1731, was

<sup>1</sup> As these sheets were passing through the press, this highly valued friend, devoted to historical research, died Friday, the 7th of September, 1894, and the funeral services were largely attended, on the following Tuesday, by leading citizens of New Bedford and its vicinity.

also its first deacon. Seth, who married Hannah, daughter of Ebenezer Standish, of Plymouth, was an ancestor of Charles A. White, esq., of New Haven, who speaks of such a tradition in the family.

Page 242. Mr. Franklin Pratt locates the "Glebe" half a mile westerly from the church, where now is the Catholic cemetery.

Page 272. *J.* Pickering should be *R. B.* Charles *Brown* should be *Brow*.

Page 296. The date of Jezaniah Sumner's letter, 1792, is wrong. And I fear the true date 1798 (according to the original framed in Historical Hall) will modify my statement that the ode was sung at the dedication of the academy in 1796, but later "on the day of exhibition," as it is expressed in the letter.

Page 299. Gen. David Cobb died in *Boston*, not *Taunton*, April 17, 1830.

Page 311. Lydia, daughter of Capt. James Leonard, was the wife of Capt. Thomas Cobb, thus *mother*, not *wife* of Gen. David.

Page 314. See the memoirs of Gen. Joseph Gardner Swift, LL.D., U. S. A., senior graduate of the United States Military Academy, West Point, chief engineer U. S. A. from 1812 to 1818. To which is added a genealogy of the family of Thomas Swift, of Dorchester, Mass., 1634, by Harrison Ellery, member N. E. Hist. Gen. Society, 1890. Privately printed. According to this rare book Dr. Foster Swift was son of Samuel<sup>4</sup>, Samuel<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>, born January, 1760, died August, 1835, married, February 18, 1783, Deborah, daughter of Capt. Thomas and Elizabeth Delano, of Nantucket, born September, 1762, died June 3, 1824. Fine portraits, painted by Jarvis, are reproduced by the Albertype process for the work. Dr. died in New London, Conn. His children, Joseph Gardner, Wm. Henry, two daughters, Sarah Delano and Deborah Ann.

Page 354. Mr. Leonard is my authority for calling *Adshen* Leonard *Stephen*, who was clerk of the court and town treasurer.

Page 372. (7) Major Thomas Leonard, born 1640, not 1611. Died in 1713. Aet 73.

Page 373. (9) Thomas Dean<sup>2</sup>, should be<sup>3</sup>.

(10) Samuel Pratt lived on Cohannet street, where his descendant Calvin D. now lives.

(14) Jonathan Carver's home lot was near Taunton Bank site, "east of training field."



(17) Buried, with others, near where was the small-pox hospital, just off the Boston turnpike, near the Raynham line, interested descendants have recently removed the remains of Henry Hodges to the Oakland cemetery, to rest by the side of kindred dust.

Page 374. (22) Jonathan *Shores* should read *Shaw*, as Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Shaw (Benjamin<sup>2</sup>, Ichabod<sup>1</sup>) married Mercy Mason, and Jonathan<sup>4</sup> was a grandson of Ensign John Mason.

(28) *Richard*<sup>1</sup> should read *Walter*<sup>1</sup>.

(29) Morgan Cobb was a *carpenter* or *joiner*, as he calls himself, on authority of Mr. Franklin Pratt, who thinks the Morgan Cobb, jr. (see note 24), was selectman in 1721-22, 1724, in addition to the years credited to him.

(30 should be 31) Abiather Leonard was selectman in 1780, not 1777. (See pp. 464 and 571.)

Page 375. (35) Capt. James should be<sup>5</sup>, says Mr. Leonard, the fifth from the first James, omitted.

(41) Lieut. Jonathan *Shores* (see pp. 362 and 429) was a great grandson of John Lincoln, and a great-great-grandson of Thomas, the miller, and lived on what is now Shores street. He was not, therefore, the "grandson of Lieut. John Mason," referring to "note 21," which should be 22. (See page 374 (22).)

(46) Seth Sumner lived on Tremont street at Oakland.

Page 377. (58) Gen. James Williams<sup>5</sup>, son of James<sup>4</sup>. The father, son, and Dr. Alfred, filled the office of registrar of deeds ninety-five years.

(62) Again *Richard*<sup>1</sup> should be *Walter*<sup>1</sup>.

Page 378. (71) Judge George Leonard, Mr. Leonard, of New Bedford, would have us add, was member of the First Congress under Washington, was re-elected to the third and fourth, but defeated for the second term.

Page 379. (75) Major Apollos Leonard was the *third* son of Judge Zephaniah.

Page 403. The "eighty-eight acres" training field, according to record, was north of the Green, east of Hopewell and the Bay road, near to, if not including the Plain burying ground.

Page 406. (9) Elisha *Hodges* should be *Hodge*.

Page 428. *David* should be *Daniel* Briggs.

Page 433. (8) Capt. Richard Cobb died in his fifty-sixth year, and was buried in the Church of England yard on Tremont street.

(10) Capt. Job Smith died in 1795, the great-grandfather of John Wilson Smith, of Providence.

Page 455, seventh line from top. *Leonard* Hodges by searching records is found to be *London* Hodges.

Page 471. The list of Revolutionary pensioners from Taunton should contain the name of *Abisha Eddy*. The commissioner of pensions at Washington is authority for the statement that he resided at Taunton at the time of his enlistment, serving from first to last, 1778-1780, twenty-five months. At the time of his application for pension in 1833 he resided in Gloucester, R. I., but returned to Taunton in 1845, and died there February 28, 1855, having been born in Taunton, September 10, 1761.

Page 479. Captain Hall says, fifth line from top, *Ballou* should be *Bollan*, and in the eleventh line *Boland* should be *Borland*. Also, on page 480, sixth line from bottom, *Ballou* should be *Bollan*.

Page 512. Michael Burns, of Taunton, was sergeant and lieutenant of the 33d Regiment, but in the State records he is credited to Berkley, where he enlisted, which accounts for his name not appearing in the Taunton history. His name does appear on page 517, as enlisting in the 3d Massachusetts Cavalry. This will account for the omission of the names on our rolls of other residents of Taunton, who became such after their enlistment, as that of Edward Marvell of the 40th, credited to Dighton, and Hugh King of the 51th, credited to Cambridge.

Page 522. Benjamin F. Hall should be Benjamin J.

Page 550. Add Charlotte (Hodges) Morton, wife of the governor, died December 25, 1873.

Page 556. Samuel R. Townsend was buried in *Waltham*, not *Wareham*.

Page 560. The notice of "members of the legal profession now in practice in Taunton" fails to record the name of Hon. John E. Sanford, because his eminent abilities have for many years been in such demand in the public service elsewhere, that he cannot be said to be in the present practice of his profession in Taunton. For an account of these services see pp. 575, 724, 725, 732. Since the issue of our publication Judge John H. Galligan has died, to the great grief of his brethren at the bar and the community generally. Frederick S. Hall, esq., has been called to fill his place on the bench, and A. M. Alger, esq., has become register of the Probate Court, Mr. Alger's place, as clerk of the District Court being filled by Albert Fuller, esq.

Page 565. Shadrach Wilbore had ten children, the first born in 1659, and the tenth in 1683. His wife, Mary, died March 27, 1691.

Page 570. If F. Pratt is right in his suggestion, page 374, Morgan Cobb 2d served all the years, as selectman.

Page 575. Francis G. Babbitt should be Francis S. *Soomon* Woodward, jr., should be *Solomon*.

Page 608. Capt. Josiah Crocker's house was standing, and his daughter, Mrs. West, died there in 1849. Col. Russell Wood, not *George B. Atwood*, proprietor of the Weatherby tavern in 1830.

Page 609. *Julius*, not *Justus* Fisher, proprietor of Washington Hotel. The last occupants Huntington & Lane in 1849.

Page 612. Jesse Smith's stable was on the site of the *Rand estate*, not *Taylor block*. He purchased of Jesse Hartshorn the Capt. Cyrus Williams place in 1814, and built his residence thereon. He bought the Tillinghast corner, where now is the City Hotel, in 1818.

Page 688. To the list of secretaries of the Bristol County Agricultural Society add George H. Rhodes, 1875.

Page 702. In making up the page the following line was dropped—*continued in the position until July, 1877, when he resigned to take—* Make this the top line of the page to complete the sense.

Page 715. Under the head of floods, add, that in January, 1784, the flood covered a large portion of Capt. Job Smith's place, as well as the extensive grounds of Gen. James Williams (now Mrs. Baylies), where his son was drowned. It was sixteen feet higher than the ordinary tide.

Page 716. The Episcopal church blown down was on Tremont street, where still may be seen its burial place.

Page 718. John W. Washburn should be John N. Also read Isaac G. Carrier.

Page 719. Levi *Hall* should be *Hale*.

Page 733. The clerks of the Common Council of the city have been from the beginning:

Bernard A. Galligan, from 1865 to 1866, inclusive.

James R. Husband, from 1867 to 1876, inclusive.

Joseph R. Tallman, from 1877 to present time.

To list of assessors add James W. Crossman in 1868.

Page 738. Louis Stoughton Drake would have me state, he is a descendant of William, of Taunton, who settled here in 1707, the son of



Thomas Drake, of Weymouth, not therefore descended from John, one of the "original purchasers."

Page 755, twelfth line from top, *farm* should be *franc*.

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## PART II

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Page 23. Charles F. Johnson was member of the Legislature in 1865-66.

Page 36, nineteenth line from bottom, *10* should be *19*, the true date of the birth of Alpheus Sanford, who, it may be added, was justice of the peace, prominent in town affairs, a representative from Taunton to the State Legislature in 1844. Also, the mother of Dr. Tripp desires to name Dr. Peleg F. Walker, of Providence, a classmate of her son, as the friend who wrote the words of eulogy she quoted.

Page 38. Sybil, daughter of Judge Reed, was born January 21, 1858. The earlier date was a manifest error.

The descent of Alex. H. Williams is, Richard <sup>1</sup>, Joseph <sup>2</sup>, Richard <sup>3</sup>, Col. George <sup>4</sup>, Capt. George <sup>5</sup>, Francis <sup>6</sup>, Alexander H. <sup>7</sup>. Thus the first Richard's son, Joseph, was the father of a second Richard, who was the father of Col. George.

Page 65. Add, Mr. Levi P. Morton's wife, Anna Livingston Street, is a direct descendant of the second Taunton minister, Rev. Nicholas Street, through Rev. Samuel Street, of Wallingford, Conn.

Page 68, twelfth line from top, *1831* should be *1834*. Mrs. Brabrook was daughter of Charles and Fidelia (Danforth) Knowles. The mother, daughter of Thomas and Betsey (Haskins) Danforth, and her mother again daughter of Capt. Jacob Haskins and Mary Pitts.

Page 83. The second annual report of trustees of Public Reservations, 1892, is in error in giving the Taunton Green *1 1-4* acres. It should be *1 1-8*. The gift of Stimpson H. Woodward, in 1881, was, instead of *1 acre*, *4 acres*, so says the deed.

Page 110. The Hon. Joseph H. Williams, of Augusta, Me., in the list of subscribers is improperly credited to Taunton, however much we might wish to claim him.

The *Taunton Public Library* should be included in list of subscribers.









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